

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OMB-01 NEAE-00 EUR-25 IO-14 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 EB-11 DRC-01 /139 W

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P R 181445Z APR 74

FM AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1888

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L THESSALONIKI 0202

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GR, TU

SUBJECT: "ELLINIKOS VORRAS" RESUMES VIOLENT ATTACKS ON  
TURKEY

REF: A) ISTANBUL 1047 B) THESSALONIKI 195

C) THESSALONIKI 197

SUMMARY: LOCAL ANTI-TURKISH CAMPAIGN RESUMED APRIL 17  
AND 18 WITH VIOLENT ATTACKS IN CONSERVATIVE "ELLINIKOS  
VORRAS". RENEWAL OF ASSAULT REMOVES ANY DOUBT THAT CHIEF  
ED KYROU HAS BACKING OF AT LEAST SOME KEY SENIOR OFFICERS  
LOCALLY. DISTURBING ASPECT IS THAT ANTI-GOT ARTICLES APPEAR  
TO BE STRIKING GENERALLY RESPONSIVE CHORD AMONG LOCAL  
RESIDENTS OF VARIOUS POLITICAL OUTLOOKS WITH WHOM WE HAVE  
SPOKEN. END SUMMARY.

1. "ELLINIKOS VORRAS" OF APRIL 17 RETURNED TO ATTACK IN  
CURRENT ANTI-TURKISH CAMPAIGN WITH FULL FRONTPAGE PHOTOS  
AND REPORT BY CHIEF ED. KYROU ON APRIL 13 DEMONSTRATION IN  
ISTANBUL. UNDER BANNER HEADLINE, "COME AND GET IT",  
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KYROU WRITES THAT DEMONSTRATION WAS ORGANIZED AND APPROVED BY

TURKISH POLICE. EDITORIAL HIGHLIGHTS PROTESTORS' DEMANDS FOR EXPULSION OF PATRIARCHATE AND GREEK COMMUNITY FROM ISTANBUL, AND ALLEGED GOT THREATS TO "TAKE BY WAR" CYPRUS, AEGEAN OIL, MYTILINI, DODECANESE ISLANDS, WESTERN THRACE, AND "ARRIVE AT ATHENS". KYROU CHALLENGES GOT TO MOVE AGAINST GREECE AND FACE RESULTS.

2. EDITORIAL CONTRASTS ALLEGED GOT ENCOURAGEMENT FOR DEMONSTRATION WITH DISCIPLINE SHOWN BY GREEK POLICE IN RESTRAINING REPORTED APRIL 11 PROTESTS AGAINST TURKEY BY WORKERS AT PTOLEMAIS. ACCORDING TO KYROU, 250 OF LATTER DEMONSTRATED AS RESULT OF HIS OWN EDITORIAL ON TURKEY (REF B) AND WOULD HAVE BEEN JOINED BY "ADDITIONAL 10,000", IF GOG PERMITTED. KYROU REPORTS THAT HE ALSO RECEIVING MANY "LETTERS AND CONGRATULATIONS" FOR HIS REPORTING ON TURKEY AND LISTS NUMBER OF RETIRED OFFICERS, INCLUDING EX-N.GREEK POLICE INSPECTOR GEN. MITSOU (OF LAMBRAKIS ERA) AMONG SUPPORTERS. KYROU ASKS RHETORICALLY IF DIPLOMATS ACCREDITED TO GREECE HAVE "UNDERSTOOD GENUINE FEELING OF GREEK PEOPLE" AND PREDICTS "FIRE, BLOOD, AND DEATH" IF TURKS TAKE "SLIGHTEST" ACTION.

3. EDITORIAL CONCLUDES THAT WHOEVER SEEKS "HANDFUL OF GREEK SOIL OR LITER OF AEGEAN WATER" SHOULD "COME AND TAKE IT IF HE DARES". "IF AMERICANS ARE SENSITIVE ABOUT SOUTH-EASTERN WING OF ATLANTIC ALLIANCE", HE WRITES, THEY SHOULD LOOK TO "SICK MAN" (TUKEY). TIME IS COMING FOR SYRIANS, KURDS, AND ARMENIANS TO SEIZE OWN TERRITORIES AND INDEPENDENCE FROM TURKEY. ONLY GREECE "WILL NOT PROVOKE TROUBLE" BUT, IF PROVOKED, WILL "SEE IF TURKS ENTER ATHENS OR WE ENTER CONSTINOPOLIS".

4. EDITORIAL ABOVE ACCOMPANIED BY PROMINENT PHOTOS OF ISTANBUL DEMONSTRATIONS, SHOWING TURKISH CROWDS, SLOGANS, AND DEROGATORY "HURRIYET" CARTOON. SAME ISSUE CARRIES EXTENSIVE REPORTING ON EASTER OBSERVANCES AT PATRIARCHATE, INTERVIEWS WITH GREEK VISITORS RETURNING FROM ISTANBUL, AND TEXT OF PM ECEVIT INTERVIEW WITH ATHENS PAPER. LEAD-IN COMMENT TO LATTER CLAIMS THAT ATHENS PRESS GIVING PUBLICITY TO "UNACCEPTABLE" VIEWS OF TURKISH PM AT TIME WHEN TURKISH CONFIDENTIAL

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MOBS INSULTING GREEK NATIONAL PRIDE.

5. FURTHER LEAD EDITORIAL OF APR. 18, KYROU TAKES OFFENSE AT REPORTED BBC REFERENCE TO PREVIOUS "VORRAS" REPORTING, PARTICULARLY CRITICISMS OF UK (REF B). ARTICLE REPEATS EARLIER ALLEGATIONS THAT UK POLICY "PRO-TURKISH AND AGAINST GREECE". REAL UK INTERESTS, KYROU WRITES, WOULD BE TO ADOPT SUPPORT RELATIONSHIP WITH GREECE SIMILAR TO US-ISRAEL.

ARTICLE IN SAME ISSUE BY ED. NICOLAOS MERTZOS PICKS UP KYROU  
EDITORIAL ON ISTANBUL DEMONSTRATION WITH FURTHER REFERENCE  
TO TURKS AS "BARBAROUS HORDES".

6. COMMENT: RENEWAL OF THESE VIOLENT ASSAULTS DISPOSE  
OF ANY LINGERING DOUBTS THAT "VORRAS" AND KYROU ENJOY AT  
LEAST TACIT SUPPORT OF KEY OFFICERS HERE ON THIS ISSUE.  
WE ARE STILL UNABLE ESTABLISH, HOWEVER, WHETHER THESE HAVE  
APPROVAL OF ATHENS OR ARE MAVERICK LOCAL INITIATIVE AND, IN  
EITHER EVENT, FOR WHAT PURPOSE. IN ANY CASE, KYROU IS A  
SHREWD JUDGE OF HIS CONSTITUENCY; WE ARE CONCERNED TO NOTE  
THAT AMONG CONTACTS OF VARIOUS POLITICAL COLORATIONS WITH  
  
WHOM WE HAVE SPOKEN RECENTLY THERE IS GENERAL CONCURRENCE

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## Message Attributes

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